



NEWS & VIEWS

Aspiration, Character & Excellence

Headteacher: Mr M Suttwood



Headteacher's Comment:

It is officially 'Big Coat' weather and as the weather continues to remind us that we live in the UK, not in the South of France, we must remember to dress appropriately for school with appropriate outerwear, not hoodies. I am not a huge football fan, controversially it seems, but I have had the pleasure of watching our school football teams this week. It is great to see how gracious the students are in defeat as well as humble in victory, true ambassadors for Chase High.



Art Trip:

Year 10 GCSE Art students engaged in an artist-led workshop at the Focal Point Art Gallery. Under the guidance of Philippa Stewart, the students explored the influence of climate change on coastal regions. Together, they crafted a captivating collaborative installation inspired by sea grass and marine life. The resulting artwork was truly remarkable, and we take great pride in the imaginative achievements of our Year 10 students!



Cinders!

Rehearsals are well underway for the Cinders Pantomime. Students have been working hard learning dances, songs and lines to make this year's Christmas production the best yet! The show is lots of fun for the whole family and students are excited to perform to an audience. Performances are taking place on Wednesday 6 December at 5.00 pm and Thursday 7 December at 7.00 pm. Tickets are available via parent pay.

[Click here to purchase Cinders! tickets](#)



Christmas Lunches:

This week you should have received a letter about our Christmas lunches. The year teams and associate staff will serve the children their meal whilst the sound of crackers and festive music play in the background.

Years 8 - Friday 15 December

Year 9 - Friday 15 December

Year 10 - Friday 15 December

Year 11 - Monday 18 December

Year 7 - Tuesday 19 December



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Library Christmas Fayre:

Our Library Christmas Fayre will be in full swing next week with games, cakes, sweets and prizes. If your child would like to participate, don't forget to send them into school with some money to enjoy the festivities. The fayre will be taking place at break and lunch time in the library.



Year 8 Parents' Evening:

We are holding our Year 8 Parents' Evening online on Thursday 14 December from 4.00 pm and hope all parents/carers take advantage of speaking with staff about their child's attainment and engagement. The booking system is now open. If you are having difficulties in booking appointments, please contact Mrs Lucas, Deputy Head of Year 8.

Click here to book now!



Word of the Week:

The word of the week from Monday 4 December 2023 is **Justify**; to support your ideas with evidence.

Justify

To support your ideas with evidence.

LORIC COMMUNICATION



House points totals for this week



454



821



506



591



Dates for your Diary:

06.12.23 – 07.12.23 Cinders Pantomime Performance
8.12.23 Year 7 and 8 Reports Sent Home
11.12.23 – 15.12.23 Celebration Assemblies

14.12.23 Year 8 Parents' Evening
14.12.23 Year 11 Bowling Trip
15.12.23 Years 8 – 10 Christmas Lunch



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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.

INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.

SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.

CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.